From:	Fuzzy Dice
To:	Devereux, Jan
Subject:	Topic on April 23 schedule
Date:	Monday, April 16, 2018 12:24:32 PM

Dear Councilor Devereux,

I have been told by friends that there is a resolution coming before the Cambridge City Council next Monday (April 23), which proposes to end city contracts with Hewlett-Packard on account of HP's ties to Israel. I have no idea how many Cambridge corporations or their local divisions do business with the State of Israel, but I hope that the City Council will not support any grass-roots boycott of Israel.

Protecting the "boycott of Israel" proponents, so as to not infringe on the free speech rights of any organization, is in opposition to the nondiscrimination laws that we should be upholding. I agree we must protect the free speech of even those whom we would rather not hear from - neo-Nazis, for example - but we do not need to adopt to the policies that these groups propose for our civil engagements or extend them to the businesses that have chosen to be here because we are a broad-minded and welcoming community.

There are many injustices in the world, but it is hardly the role of our local government to attempt to regulate complex international relationships.

Also, wouldn't it be important to know the majority opinion on this topic before making policy decisions which might be driven by a small but vocal group of citizens?

Thank you for all that you do for Cambridge citizens.

Sincerely,
Barbara Appignani
16 Ash Street
Cambridge